

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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# INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Factors behind Attempted Coup d'Etat of 29 June

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1. The kidnapping of Phibun Songgram and the subsequent fighting may be considered a coup within a coup. In recent weeks there had been a gradual joining of dissident forces with the aim of ousting Phao and his clique. This dissident coalition included Admiral Sind Kamonnawin and virtually the entire Navy, the Air Force, the Thai 3 Army under General Wirayot Yothin at Phismulok, Lt. General Sarit Thanarat's units in the Thai 1 Army, and certain pro-Pridi and Free Thai elements.
2. The plan of this group called for amalgamation of all forces under its command and an ultimatum to the Government, without recourse to military action. The Navy unit under Rear Admiral Chalit Kunkamthorn acted prematurely. Chalit expected that this would set the whole opposition force in motion. This stratagem failed whereupon the other members of the group disclaimed any connection with the plot. The Air Force bombings were probably undertaken in order to demonstrate conclusively that they were not involved with the dissidents. General Wirayot denied that he was involved in any way.

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